

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 CPR-02 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 RSC-01

/057 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:DHSIMPSON:JK

APPROVED BY AF/S:WPO'NEILL

AF - CGROSS

S/S - MR. GAMMON

S/S- C THOMAS

S - MR. BREMER

----- 105740

R 282135Z NOV 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MASERU

INFO AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LT, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S REPLY TO JONATHAN LETTER

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM
SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER JONATHAN, IN RESPONSE TO
JONATHAN LETTER OF OCTOBER 16, 1973.

2. QUOTE. DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER: PLEASE ACCEPT MY
DEEPEST THANKS FOR YOUR LETTER OF CONGRATULATIONS ON MY
DESIGNATION AS SECRETARY OF STATE. I LOOK UPON MY NEW
OFFICE AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHEN-
ING OF PEACE. AS I UNDERTAKE THIS GREAT NEW RESPONSIBIL-
ITY, YOUR WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT MEAN MUCH TO ME.

3. I AM ALSO GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR WRITING TO SET FORTH
YOUR COUNTRY'S HIGH IDEALS AND OBJECTIVES. WE TOO
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VALUE HIGHLY THE GOOD RELATIONS THAT EXIST BETWEEN

THE UNITED STATES AND LESOTHO. WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE

BEEN ABLE TO DO WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN PARTICIPATING WITH YOU IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF LESOTHO. WE ALSO WILL CONTINUE TO LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH YOU IN MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST IN THE FUTURE. BEST REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER. UNQUOTE.

4. TEXT OF JONATHAN LETTER TO SECRETARY FOLLOWS.

5. QUOTE. YOUR EXCELLENCY, THIS BEING THE FIRST TIME I ADDRESS A COMMUNICATION TO YOU SINCE YOUR ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE, I WISH TO CONVEY TO YOU MY PERSONAL FELICITATIONS AND THOSE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF LESOTHO ON YOUR APPOINTMENT. WE WISH THAT YOUR LONG EFFORTS FOR A DURABLE PEACE IN OUR TIME WILL BE CROWNED WITH SUCCESS DURING YOUR TERM OF OFFICE.

6. WE HAVE BEEN GRATIFIED TO OBSERVE THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLOSE AND WARM RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS. IN OUR GEOGRAPHICAL AND POLITICAL SETTING AS AN ENCLAVE ENTIRELY SURROUNDED BY THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA, WE HAVE LEARNT EARLY TO TREASURE FRIENDSHIPS WITH COUNTRIES SUCH AS YOURS WHICH HAVE LED THE WAY WITH BOLD IMAGINATION IN TACKLING THE DIFFICULT PROBLEM OF RACE RELATIONS IN THE MODERN WORLD.

7. WE IN LESOTHO SEEK TO DEVELOP A VIABLE NON-RACIAL SOCIETY WHICH WE BELIEVE MIGHT STAND NOT ONLY AS AN EXPRESSION OF OUR OWN DEEPLY FELT CONVICTIONS BUT ALSO AS A MODEST CONTRIBUTION TO THE PEACEFUL EVOLUTION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT ONE OF THE PRIMARY CONDITIONS FOR PEACE AND STABILITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IS THAT THERE SHOULD BE RESPECT FOR HUMAN LIFE AND THE DIGNITY OF ALL, IRRESPECTIVE OF RACE, BY ALL GOVERNMENTS IN OUR AREA.

8. WE HAVE NEVER ONCE PRETENDED THAT CHAMPIONING THE CAUSE OF NON-RACIALISM WOULD BE EASY IN AN AREA WHERE

THOSE WHO HOLD CONTRARY BELIEFS ARE EQUALLY DETERMINED TO SUCCEED AND TO FRUSRATE OUR GOALS. MY GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE ARE CALLED UPON TO EXERCISE GREAT RESTRAINT IN THE FACE OF FOREIGN PROVOCATIONS APPARENTLY AIMED AT DEFLECTING US FROM THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A SOUND AND PEACEFUL NON-RACIAL SOCIETY.

9. I WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT IN SPITE OF ANY OBSSTACLES WHICH MIGHT BE PLACED IN OUR WAY, THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF LESOTHO WILL CONTINUE TO PURSUE NON-RACIALISM AS A PRIMARY GOAL FOR PEACE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WITH FIRMNESS TEMPERED ONLY BY NECESSARY RESTRAINT TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL CHANGE.

10. WE TRUST THAT AS IN THE PAST YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO VIEW OUR SITUATION WITH SYMPATHY NOT ONLY FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF COMMON POLITICAL IDEALS BUT ALSO FOR NECESSARY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS THE EVOLUTION OF EQUITABLE ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS. WE ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH REDUCING THE ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE ON SOUTH AFRICA WHICH PREVAILS AT PRESENT, AND WITH INCREASING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN LESOTHO.

11. PLEASE ACCEPT MY GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THE PAST AND BE ASSURED OF OUR COOPERATION IN MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. YOURS SINCERELY, LEABUA JONATHAN, PRIME MINISTER. UNQUOTE.

12. DEPT DOES NOT PLAN TO RELEASE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE BUT HAS NO OBJECTION TO PM'S DOING SO. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE233534
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DHSIMPSON:JK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973117/aaaaaewd.tel
Line Count: 145
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Jan-2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <30-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY'S REPLY TO JONATHAN LETTER
TAGS: PFOR, APER, LT, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (JONATHAN, LEABUA)
To: MASERU
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005